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U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER NO. FIRST NAMED APPLICANT ATTY. DOCKET NO. 09/868,364 Franz Schellhorn P01,0212 INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.

26574 SCHIFF HARDIN & WAITE 6600 SEARS TOWER 233 S WACKER DR CHICAGO, IL 60606-6473

PCT/DE99/04125 I.A. FILING DATE PRIORITY DATE 12/29/1999

CONFIRMATION NO. 8559 371 ACCEPTANCE LETTER

OC000000009938872

Date Mailed: 05/02/2003

NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATION UNDER 35 U.S.C 371 AND 37 CFR 1.495

The applicant is hereby advised that the United States Patent and Trademark Office in its capacity as a Designated / Elected Office (37 CFR 1.495), has determined that the above identified international application has met the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 371, and is ACCEPTED for national patentability examination in the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

The United States Application Number assigned to the application is shown above and the relevant dates are:

10/12/2001

DATE OF RECEIPT OF 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(1), (c)(2) and (c)(4) REQUIREMENTS

10/12/2001

DATE OF RECEIPT OF ALL 35 U.S.C. 371 REQUIREMENTS

A Filing Receipt (PTO-103X) will be issued for the present application in due course. THE DATE APPEARING ON THE FILING RECEIPT AS THE "FILING DATE" IS THE DATE ON WHICH THE LAST OF THE 35 U.S.C. 371 REQUIREMENTS HAS BEEN RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE. THIS DATE IS SHOWN ABOVE. The filing date of the above identified application is the international filing date of the international application (Article 11(3) and 35 U.S.C. 363). Once the Filing Receipt has been received, send all correspondence to the Group Art Unit designated thereon.

The following items have been received:

- Copy of the International Application filed on 06/15/2001
- Copy of the International Search Report filed on 06/15/2001
- Copy of IPE Report filed on 06/15/2001
- Oath or Declaration filed on 10/12/2001
- Copy of references cited in ISR filed on 06/15/2001
- U.S. Basic National Fees filed on 06/15/2001

The following defects have been observed:

 Additional claim fees of \$12 as a large entity, including any required multiple dependent claim fee, are required. Applicant must submit the additional claim fees or cancel the additional claims for which fees are due.

SUMMARY OF FEES DUE:

Total additional fee(s) for this application is \$12 for a large entity.

- Total additional claim fee(s) for this application is \$12
 - \$12 for 3 independent claims over 3.

Applicant is reminded that any communications to the United States Patent and Trademark Office must be mailed to the address given in the heading and include the U.S. application no. shown above (37 CFR 1.5)

MAMIE P PERSON Telephone: (703) 305-3737

PART 3 - OFFICE COPY

FORM PCT/DO/EO/903 (371 Acceptance Notice)